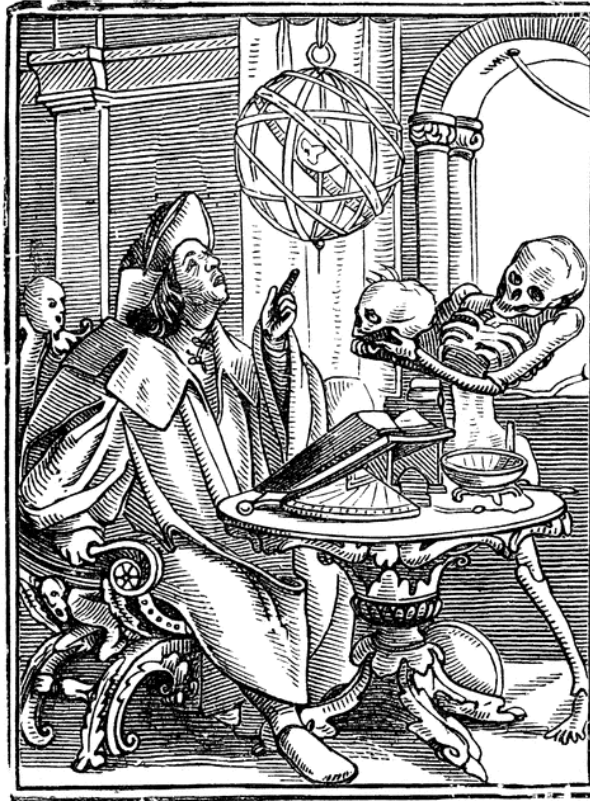


Study afternoon, 25 May 2019, C G Jung Library – Hilversum
Dr. Barbara Helen Miller

The Alchemist's tool: active imagination



Holbein's *The Dance of Death*, 1538, will be our point of departure. We explore alchemical images of *mortificatio*, similar to how the alchemist in Holbein's etch explores, that is, through active imagination. Jung understands that the creation of a symbolic image is analogue to the alchemistic *solve* and the imagined substance *death* is a preparation for healing. We mortify our urge to "act out" by inhibiting the urge, bringing, through active imagination, the patterns of death and birth into an imagined drama (the benefit is that we more thoroughly live). Quite a mystery - let us explore!